

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 10-13 and 16 are withdrawn. Claims 1-9, 14 and 15 are herein amended. No new matter is added.

Specification Objection

The amendment to the present specification, filed December 27, 2005, was objected to under 35 U.S.C. §132(a). Applicants respectfully traverse this objection

Support for the amendment to the specification does not constitute new matter. Support for the already filed amendments may be found in the corresponding International Application, WO 2004/038464, for example pages 20 and 27. A copy of WO 2004/038464 is attached herein and is marked to highlight where support for the amendment may be found.

Claim Objections

Claim 2-9, 14 and 15 were objected to due to informality. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 2-9, 14 and 15 are herein amended to provide further clarification of the patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-9, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1-9, 14 and 15 are herein amended to provide further clarification of the patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-9, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Atagi (JP 2000/214324A). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner asserts that Atagi discloses an adhesive-type optical film wherein the adhesive layer is an inside portion of an edge line of the optical film.

Atagi disclose an optical film with an adhesive layer with which the adhesive layer is prepared in one field of the optical film. In Atagi, the end face of an optical film is provided with the optical film with an adhesive layer characterized by having the field projected outside the end face of an adhesive layer. See Atagi, paragraph [0007].

However, Atagi does not disclose an adhesive optical film comprising a first optical film; a first adhesive layer laminated on at least one side of the first optical film; and at least one layer, selected from a release film and a second optical film, the at least one layer being provided on a surface on the side opposite to a first surface of the first adhesive layer where the first optical film is provided, wherein at least a portion of an edge of the first adhesive layer is an inside edge that is located on the inside of an edge line of the first optical film and the inside of an edge line of the least one layer selected from the release film and the second optical film.

Atagi does not render Applicants' claim 3 anticipated. Atagi discloses that the adhesive layer's inside edge is cut with a blade achieving a punching edge type. However, the punching edge type of Atagi is not equivalent to the presently claimed adhesive inside edge in cross section extending to the vicinity of the edge line of the optical film.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's official notice that achieving different shapes of the inside edge of the adhesive layer is known to one of ordinary skill in the art. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide a reference to support this position.

In addition, achieving a change in shape of the inside edge of the adhesive layer is not anticipated from the disclosure of Atagi. Atagi discloses one shape of the inside edge of the adhesive, a punching edge type. See Atagi, paragraph [0016]. The disclosure of Atagi could not achieve the presently claimed shapes.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the claimed invention distinguishes over the cited art and defines patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by applicants would be desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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